Johnson to announce Mets games

David S. Johnson has been selected to serve as the voice of the Lynchburg Mets baseball team for the 1983 season. Johnson will do play-by-play broadcast of all 140 Mets games on WWOD 1390 AM.

Johnson, 25, comes to the Mets organization from WTTX-FM 107 in Appomattox where he was sports director and program manager and did play-by-play announcing of Seminole District sports. He also announced the first Dixie Pre-Majors World Series ever held in Virginia at Lynchburg City Stadium last August.

Prior to working at WTTX, Johnson was sports director and afternoon air personality at WBRG in Lynchburg. He got his start in broadcasting while a student at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, where he graduated with honors in 1979. As an announcer at National Public Radio station WMRA-FM and a sports reporter at ABC affiliate WHSV-TV, Johnson covered Ralph Sampson who was then a student at Harrisonburg High School.

Johnson lettered in wrestling at JMU and Brookville High School where he graduated in 1975.

Johnson is married to the former Judy Renee Harris of Lynchburg.

Johnson replaces Peter Graves as the voice of the Mets.

The Lynchburg Mets open their season with exhibition games against Lynchburg College on April 10 and Liberty Baptist College on April 11. The Mets host defending Carolina League champions Alexandria on April 12, 13 and 14.

Davidson named to lead VDHT district

William R. Davidson, 48, has been named Lynchburg district engineer, the Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation said today.

Davidson, who grew up in Jonesville, succeeds D.H. "Pat" Gaulden, Jr., 60, Lynchburg district engineer since 1972, who will retire April 1 after 34 years with the department.

Davidson has been assistant maintenance engineer in the central office in Richmond since 1979. A graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, he entered the engineer-trainee program in 1959. He was named assistant resident engineer at Wytheville in 1963 and resident engineer at Bedford three years later. In 1968 he transferred to the Chesterfield residency in a similar post.

In 1971, Davidson was appointed central garage pool fleet manager. Four years later,he was promoted to assistant district engineer for construction in the Richmond district office, the post he held when he was named assistant maintenance engineer.

Davidson is married to the former Pattie Crockett of Jonesville, and they have two grown children.

Gaulden, a native of Rock Hill, South Carolina, has worked for the department since he was graduated from Clemson University in 1949 with a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering. He worked in a number of engineering assignments in the central office and the Staunton, Salem, and Richmond districts before being named assistant resident engineer at Martinsville in 1954. A year later he was promoted to resident engineer at Martinsville.

In 1961, Gaulden transferred to the Edinburg residency, where he also served as resident engineer. In 1965, he moved to Lynchburg as assistant district engineer; seven years later he was named district engineer.

Gaulden is married to the former Salley Rauton, also of Rock Hill, and they have a grown daughter.

The Lynchburg district is responsible for the construction and maintenance of highway and transportation-related projects in 10 counties: Pittsylvania, Halifax, Charlotte, Buckingham, Cumberland, Prince Edward, Appomattox, Campbell, Amherst, and Nelson. It has 1,006 miles of primary highways and 6,104 miles of secondary roads.

'Retailer' nominations open

Nominations are open for Virginia Retailer of the Year, an award judged half on business activity and half on community service.

The award, the only one of its type in the state, is open to any person in any capacity of the merchandise trade. The winner will be announced in May at a meeting of the Virginia Retail Merchants Association, sponsor of the recognition. Nominees do not have to be members of the association.

April 25 is the deadline for entries. Nomination forms may be obtained by contacting the VRMA, Heritage Bldg., No. 815, 10th and Main Sts., Richmond, Va. 23219; telephone (804) 649-0789.

Nominations may be made by individuals or organizations.

Obituaries

(Continued from page 4)

uncle, J. Allen Gills, of Lynchburg.

Funeral services were Wednesday in Seaver Brown Chapel, with the Rev. James J. Parker officiating. Burial was in the Round Hill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Marion Baptist Church, building fund, or to the American Cancer Society.

Thomas Eric Noble

Thomas Eric Noble of Appomattox died Tuesday afternoon. He was the infant son of Thomas Allen and Virginia Hamilton Noble.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by one brother, Scott H. Noble; his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hamilton; his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Noble, all of Appomattox; maternal great-grandmother, Mrs. Street Hamilton of Kerrville, Texas and Mrs. Dean A. Pugh of Appomattox; paternal great-grandparents, Elmer G. Noble of Williamstown, Mass., and Mrs. Eleanor B. Hinrichs of Pompano Beach, Fla.

Graveside services will be private.

The family requests that memorials be made to the Appomattox Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Jesse James Taylor

Jesse James Taylor, 17, died Tuesday morning at his residence in Appomattox. He was the son of George Edward and Elaine Moore Taylor of Appomattox.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by one brother, Dwayne Edward Taylor of Appomattox and his maternal grandfather, Roy Ferguson of Roanoke.

Funeral service will be held today (Thursday) at 2 p.m. at Robinson Funeral Home, by the Rev. Frank Casper, with burial in Liberty cemetery.

Times-Virginian

Business Briefs

Williamson attends seminar

Ruby Williamson, manager of the local Popes Family Center in Appomattox, attended the company's semi-annual management seminar held on March 29 at the Dutch Inn Conference Center in Benson, N.C. All store managers and area supervisors of the company were present.

Company President William R. Pope opened the seminar by giving a report on the past year's all-time record-setting performance of the 32 store chain operating in North Carolina and Virginia.

Loss prevention, store operations, merchandising, office procedures, accounting, and personnel management were among the many topics discussed by the other company executives, George T. Pope, Donald R. Pope and Michael R. Parham.

The Dunn Police Department provided two detectives to instruct the group in theft prevention, legal aspects of apprehending theft, and general store security principals.

President Pope also announced plans to open the chain's 33rd unit in Waverly, Virginia, early this summer.

Health care plan for unemployed considered

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Southwestern Virginia has filed with the State Corporation Commission to provide health care coverage for the approximately one-quarter million persons who are unemployed in Virginia.

The benefit program that has been filed with the SCC's Bureau of Insurance is called Term Reserve, and is the first health benefits program of its kind developed specifically to meet the special needs of the unemployed in Virginia.

"We have also petitioned the State Corporation Commission to allow us to offer this benefit program statewide because no other health care carrier has come forward with a program to meet the needs of the unemployed," said M. Roy Battista, President of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Southwestern Virginia.

"We at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Southwestern Virginia believe it is an intolerable situation for so many Virginians to remain out of work -- and unprotected against the cost of health care services."

Approximately 10.3 percent are unemployed in Appomattox, Virginia.

Term Reserve's monthly family rate is to begin at $77.39, approximately 60 percent of a small group rate and less than 40 percent of the cost of nongroup benefits from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Southwestern Virginia.

The program would cover in- and outpatient hospital and physician services without any limitations on the number of days of acute hospital care for a 12 months benefit period.

There is to be no deductible for emergency accident care. Each person covered would be protected for up to $1 million against cost of a catastrophic illness or injury.

"Our purpose is to make health care benefits as widely available as possible for as low a cost as possible," Battista said.

The Term Reserve benefit program will be available only through Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Southwestern Virginia, which is based in Roanoke. Legislation adopted by the 1983 General Assembly will allow the three Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans serving Virginia to provide benefits without geographical restrictions effective July 1.

Information about Term Reserve will be available at local Virginia Employment Commission offices across the state or by contacting Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Southwestern Virginia, P.O. Box 13047, Roanoke, Virginia 24045, Telephone (703) 985-5115 as soon as SCC approval is granted.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Southwestern Virginia, which has been limited to a 27-county region of Southwest Virginia, is among the top 10 performing Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans in the country both in service performance and financial strength as measured by national Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association data.

Historians to meet

The Appomattox County Historical Society will meet on Monday, April 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Appomattox Court House Presbyterian Church.

A program, Famous Citizens of Appomattox, will be presented. Speakers for the occasion will be Richard F. Burke, III and Ronald G. Wilson.

Members are urged to make plans to attend.

Stephen C. Arthur

Arthur receives diploma

Commander I Stephen C. Arthur of the Lynchburg Police Department received his diploma from Judge William H. Webster, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at ceremonies conducted at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

Commander Arthur distinguished himself and his Department as a member of the 132nd Session of the FBI National Academy, the most prestigious law enforcement school of its kind.

Commander Arthur, a graduate of E.C. Glass High School in Lynchburg, attended the Virginia Military Institute and holds a degree from Central Virginia Community College. He and his wife, Barbara Geason Arthur, reside in Sport Spring, Virginia.

The rigorous eleven-week school that Commander Arthur completed is accredited by the University Of Virginia and is directed at management-level law enforcement officers.

Accompanying Commander Arthur in the 132nd Session were officers from each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and eight foreign countries.

Principal speaker at the graduation exercises was Mr. Leo Callahan, Chief of Police in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Representing the students as spokesman was Chief Inspector Alan John Englefield of the Thomas Valley Police, Kidlington, England.

Commander Arthur joins several other notable Lynchburg Police Department commanders who are alumni of the National Academy, as is Chief of Police Calvin E. Robertson.

MRS. MARGARET GLOVER, accepts check for $50.00 form Mrs. Dan Turner, representing the Appomattox Junior Woman's Club. The money will be used to purchase books for library. (Photo by Bill Sherrod).

JWC book drive completed

The Appomattox Junior Woman's Club recently held a book drive to collect books to be given to the Appomattox County Library.

During the week of March 7-11 elementary school children were asked to bring in books they had at home but were no longer using. The homeroom contributing the largest number of books per student was given prizes selected by the teacher.

Mrs. Hansen's fifth-grade class turned in approximately seven books per student and won the contest. Almost 900 books were collected and donated to the library. Of these books, over half were hardbacks in excellent or very good condition. At the time these books were donated, the Junior Woman's Club also gave the librarian, Mrs. Margaret Glover, a check for $50 to purchase books of her choice.

The Education Department of the Junior Woman's Club extend thanks to Mr. Bowmann and the teachers and students at Appomattox Elementary School for helping us to make this project so successful. Club members also thank Ms. Nancy Goodman and Ms. Lauri Harwood for collecting and storing the books during the week of the contest. The support of these people allowed the club to contribute more books than ever dreamed possible.

THESE ARE THE WINNERS - Mrs. Hansen's Fifth Grade Class collected approximately seven books per student and were winners in recent book drive. (Photo by Bill Sherrod.)

Canaan Baptist news notes

Regular worship service will be at Canaan Baptist the second Sunday, April 10, at 11:30 a.m. The Rev. C. L. Elliott will be pastor in charge. The United Choir will be in charge of music for the service. Brother Bobby Jones will render two selections of his choice.

The Mt. Airy Baptist Church choirs will be in concert at the Canaan Baptist Church the third Sunday, April 17, at 7 p.m. This will benefit the Youth Club.

The Men's Club will sponsor a program April 24 (fourth Sunday) featuring guest speaker, the Rev. J.D. Scruggs, and one of his choirs. Deacon Lacy Webb is in charge.

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ACHS varsity team wins one, loses one

The Raider varsity baseball team emerged from its second week of play with a 3-1 record, following a 9-7 loss to Liberty Tuesday, and a 6-0 win over Rustburg on Friday.

At Liberty Tuesday, the Raiders had difficulty driving their baserunners home, and the local team finished the game having left nine runners on base.

This combined with an off pitching day for ace hurler, Greg Mayberry resulted in the 9-7 loss, the first of the season for the Raiders.

Still, Appomattox almost managed to pull the game off.

Trailing 8-3 after five innings, the Raiders got a lead-off double in the sixth inning from designated hitter Tim Bennett. Bennett was promptly driven home by an Alan Edmonds double. Two outs later, Jody Williams walked, then Rodney Bryant strolled to the plate and belted his second home run of the year, bringing the Raiders to within one run of tying, 8-7.

But Liberty picked up another run in the bottom of the sixth inning, and took the victory, 9-7, when the Raiders could not score in the final inning.

"It's tough to win against a good club leaving nine men stranded," commented Coach Howard Clabough after the game.

Leading the Raider offense was Rodney Bryant, with three hits in four times at bat, including a home run and three batted in. Gary Ferguson went two for three at the plate, including a double; and Jody Williams scored three runs for the local nine.

Against Rustburg Friday, the Raiders played what Calbough termed "their most complete game of the season" in shutting out the Red Devils, 6-0.

"It was one of those rare days when all phases of the game were clicking," Clabough said. "The kids showed good pitching, good defense, and timely hitting in the victory," the coach added.

In the second inning, the Raiders took the lead, after Gary Ferguson walked and stole second base. Pitcher Tim Bennett singled, putting runners on first and third.

Ferguson scored when Rustburg pitcher Steve Gunter threw to first in an effort to pick off Tim Bennett. Then Kevin Ferguson and M.J. House both walked to load the bases, and third baseman Paul Johnson hit a key double to left center to drive in Bennett and Ferguson, giving the Raiders a 3-0 lead.

The Raiders increased their lead to 5-0 in the fourth inning when Jody Williams singled and Alan Edmonds hit a home run over the left field fence.

Appomattox scored again in the bottom of the sixth inning off relief pitcher John Rosser when catcher Rodney Bryant hit his third home run of the season, sealing the score at 6-0. Tim Bennett pitched a four-hitter to record his second win of the year.

"Tim was really up for this one. He pitched exceptionally well and seemed to get stronger as the game progressed," noted Clabough.

"Coach Pettyjohn and I were extremely proud of the team because for the first time this season, the boys put the three main phases of the game together in one game: good pitching, good defense and timely hitting."

The Raiders picked up eight hits in the game, with Rodney Bryant (two for four, one RBI), Paul Johnson (two RBIs), Alan Edmonds (two RBIs) and Gary Ferguson (one for one, three walks, four stolen bases and one double) leading the offense.

The Raiders, at 3-1, were scheduled to play Nelson County Tuesday, and face Gretna at home today (Thursday). Next Tuesday, Appomattox plays William Campbell away. Games start at 4 p.m.

Women's softball planned

The Campbell County Department of Recreation will sponsor a women's softball league.

The organizational meeting will be held on April 18, 1983 at 7 PM at the Recreation Meeting Room in Rustburg, Virginia.

All interested persons, please call Altavista - 369-6671, Lynchburg - 847-0961, Rustburg - 332-5161, Brookneal and Gladys - 283-5321, Ext. 155.

Times-Virginian

Sports News

Softball action

Raiderettes split games

The Raiderette softball team defeated Rustburg 14-3 Friday, after falling to Liberty 9-7 last Tuesday.

The girls took a 4-0 lead in the first inning against Liberty, and extended that lead to 5-0 in the third. Liberty came back with two runs of their own in the third.

In the fifth inning, Liberty scored three runs to tie the score. The Raiderettes scored twice in their half of the sixth, but Liberty came back with four runs in the sixth to take a 9-7 lead, and the Raiderettes were unable to rally in the seventh. The loss was the first of the season for the Raiderettes.

Leading batters for Appomattox were Robin Paulette and Kim Hancock who each went two for three. Getting one hit each were Marsha Cheatham, Diane Jones, Shelia Mullins, and Carolyn Cheatham. Robin Paulette had four stolen bases for the Raiderettes and Kim Hancock had three stolen bases and a double.

Friday's game against Rustburg saw the Raiderettes take control from the first inning. Appomattox scored four times in their initial at-bat, then following a single run by Rustburg in the first inning, the Raiderettes reeled off six runs before the Lady Red Devils scored again in the fifth inning.

The Raiderettes scored two more runs in the fifth and sixth innings, while holding Rustburg scoreless to record the 14-3 victory.

Cindy Covington recorded the win, with relief from Shelia Mullins, who pitched in the final inning.

The Raiderettes combined for a total of 24 hits, including four by Robin Paulette, three each by Marsha Cheatham, Kim Hancock, Shelia Mullins and Brenda Wright, and two each by Diane Jones, Sherry Purcell, and Cindy Covington.

Kim Hancock and Janet Thomas each hit triples for the Raiderettes, and Marsha Cheatham got a double for Appomattox.

Of the 14 stolen bases recorded in the game, Robin Paulette got three, and Marsha Cheatham, Kim Hancock, Shelia Mullins, and Brenda Wright each got two.

With a 3-1 record, the Raiderettes are scheduled to play Gretna this Friday at Gretna.

Ladies' golf tourney set

The Falling River County Club Ladies Golf Association will hold their first Captain's Choice tournament Saturday, April 16.

To kick off the 1983 golf season, prospective tournament participants are asked to sign up by Thursday, April 14, or call Becky Henderson at 352-5115.

Tee-off the day of the tournament will be at 9 a.m., and lunch will follow play.

Jayvee record is 4-1

The Raider junior varsity baseball team has recorded four wins against one loss in its first two weeks of play.

Appomattox defeated Prince Edward 17-6, Altavista 6-5, 2-1, and Liberty 12-6, before falling to Rustburg, 10-4.

Prince Edward fell to the pitching of Raiders Jeff Motley and Mike Ferguson,and the strong hitting of Ron Scruggs and Ron Guill, who recorded three hits each.

Saturday's double-header against Altavista featured a winning pitching effort by Mike Ferguson and Alex Almond in the first game. Russell Walton and Kevin Kendrick led the batting attack with two and three hits, respectively.

In the second game, R. W. Jamerson pitched impressively, holding the Colonels to one run and only five baserunners.

In that game, Andre McCoy's fourth-inning lead-off double and stolen base were followed by Darrell Tolley's RBI single. Tolley later scored the winning run on Jeff Motley's ground ball, which was misplayed by an Altavista infielder.

Against Liberty Tuesday, Mike Ferguson pitched a complete game to record the win. Offensively, the Raiders exploded for 13 hits with Lonny Hamlett and Tom Cobb recording three hits each. Hamlett also had five big RBIs to lead the barrage. Defensively, Cobb made many fine plays from his second-base position.

The Raiders fell from the undefeated ranks on Wednesday, with their 10-4 loss to Rustburg. Cobb and Walton were the outstanding performers for the Raiders that day, with two hits each.

The junior varsity Raider baseball team plays an 18-game schedule this year, with many home games. Support from fans is much appreciated, and fans are invited to come and watch the games. Schedules can be obtained from Coach Hudson or Coach Clabough. The next home game will be April 12 against Jefferson Forest at ACHS.

Dawson speaks to Equus Club

Members and guests of the Equus Saddle Club were treated to a fine evening of entertaining instruction at their March meeting. Guest speaker for the occasion was Robbie Dawson of Lynchburg.

Dawson operates a large stable and is a respected trainer as well as a judge of western horses.

Plans were made for the upcoming Toga-Appomattox Horse Show to be held at the Toga Community Center on June 18. Sponsors will be contacted again this year during the month of April.

The next meeting of the club will be the last Monday in April. At that time a film, "Intermediate Trail Riding" will be presented.

All individuals interested in horses are cordially invited to attend the meeting.

Girls win first two

Appomattox County High School's girls' tennis team won the first two matches of their season last week, recording a 9-0 win over Seven Hills on Tuesday, and a 7-2 win against Brookville on Thursday.

In the season opener against Seven Hills, the Raiderettes made a clean sweep, with Patty Roach, Sally Coleman, Laurie Cowan, Michelle Ford and Anne Caldwell all winning their singles matches.

The doubles teams of Roach and Ford, Coleman and Caldwell, and Cowan and Donna Dickerson mopped up in the doubles competition, giving the Raiderettes a shut-out, 9-0.

In Thursday's match, Rustburg's Lisa Roberts defeated Raiderette Patty Roach 9-7 in a close match which saw the lead see-saw between the teams' number-one seeded players.

Sally Coleman, Laurie Cowan, Michelle Ford, Anne Caldwell and Renee Wells all won their singles matches for Appomattox.

The Rustburg doubles team of Roberts and Branham defeated Appomattox's Roach and Ford 8-3 in doubles competition, but the Raiderettes doubles teams of Coleman-Caldwell and Dickerson-Wells won the other two doubles matches to give the Raiderettes their second win against no losses, 7-2.

Roach and Cowan are the Raiderettes on this year's team with the most experience. Roach, a senior, has played four years and lettered two years. Cowan, also a senior, has played three years and lettered two years.

Sophomores Sally Coleman and Michelle Ford are the two other returning players who lettered last year. Other returnees include Anne Caldwell and Renee Wells. New to the team this year are sophomore Donna Dickerson and freshman Susan Booker.

Raiderette tennis coach Lucy Harris notes that the team has gotten off to a good start, and says she is hoping the girls can continue this momentum for a very successful season. Harris expects Altavista and Brookville to be particularly tough competition this season.

Regular season district matches begin April 13, in a match against Altavista which was originally scheduled for April 5. The match will be held at home, starting at 3:30 p.m.

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